

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Presently Presented) A method of matching the color of a paint to a pre-existing color comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a photo-reactive film;
- (b) exposing the photo-reactive film to the color to be matched to activate color pigments in the film;
- (c) isolating the pigments; and
- (d) mixing the pigments with a neutral base solution to tint the solution to match the color to which the film was exposed.

Claim 2 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 1 and wherein the color to be matched is the color of a vehicle.

Claim 3 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 1 and wherein step (b) comprises placing the photo-reactive film on the color to be matched.

Claim 4 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 1 and wherein step (b) comprises placing the photo-reactive film in a camera and photographing the color to be matched.

Claim 5 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 4 and further comprising placing a light-tight box over the color to be matched, attaching the camera to the light-tight box, illuminating the interior of the light-tight box, and activating the camera.

Claim 6 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 5 and wherein the step of illuminating the interior of the light-tight box comprises activating an array of bulbs disposed within the light-tight box.

Claim 7 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 6 and wherein the array of bulbs are arrayed around the interior of the light-tight box.

Claim 8 (Presently Presented) The method of claim 7 and wherein the light-tight box includes a perimeter seal for sealing out ambient light from the interior of the light-tight box.

Claim 9 (Presently Presented) A method of matching touch-up paint to the existing color of a vehicle comprising the steps of:

- (a) exposing a photo-reactive emulsion to the surface of the vehicle in a region to be color matched to activate color pigments in the emulsion;
- (b) isolating the pigments; and
- (c) mixing the isolated pigments with a base to tint the base to match the color of the surface.

Claim 10 (Presently Presented) A method of matching touch-up paint as claimed in claim 9 and wherein step (a) comprises loading a camera with film coated with the emulsion and photographing the surface of the vehicle.

Claim 11 (Presently Presented) A method of matching touch-up paint as claimed in claim 10 and wherein step (a) further comprises placing a light-tight box on the surface of the vehicle, attaching the camera to the light-tight box, illuminating the interior of the light-tight box, and activating the camera.

Claim 12 (Presently Presented) A method of matching touch-up paint as claimed in claim 9 and wherein step (b) includes placing the emulsion in a solvent to dissolve the pigments in the solvent and evaporating a predetermined amount of the solvent to concentrate the pigments.

Claim 13 (Presently Presented) A method of matching touch-up paint as claimed in claim 9 and where in step (c), the pigments are mixed with the base in the proportion of about 1 part pigments to about 3 parts base.

Claim 14 (Presently Presented) An apparatus for exposing a photographic emulsion to the surface color of a vehicle to activate pigments in the emulsion for use in tinting a neutral base solution to formulate matching touch-up paint, said apparatus comprising:

a camera loaded with film bearing said photographic emulsion;

a light-tight box defining an interior volume, said light-tight box having an open side for placement on the surface of a vehicle;

an adapter for mounting said camera to said light-tight box with the camera oriented toward the surface of a vehicle on which the box is placed; and

a light source in said light-tight box for illuminating the interior of the light-tight box for exposure of said film upon activation of said camera.

Claim 15 (Presently Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 and wherein said light source comprises an array of bulbs in said light-tight box.

Claim 16 (Presently Presented) The apparatus of claim 15 and wherein said bulbs are arrayed around the interior periphery of said light-tight box.

Claim 17 (Presently Presented) A touch-up paint formulated according the method of claim 9.

Claims 18-20 (Cancelled).